

Message Text

SECRET

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TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
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S E C R E T STATE 240009

NODIS
GABORONE FOR SCHAUFELER ONLY; PARIS FOR REINHARDT ONLY

NOT FOR EMBASSY
FOLLOWING REPEAT DAR ES SALAAM 3577 DTD 27 SEP 76.

QUOTE: S E C R E T DAR ES SALAAM 3577

NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, RH, ZA, TZ
SUBJECT: NYERERE'S REACTION TO US-UK RESPONSE TO LUSAKA FIVE
PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

REF: STATE 239447

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT NYERERE (A) WELCOMES US AND UK REACTIONS
TO LUSAKA STATEMENT, (B) EMPHASIZES THAT AFRICANS ARE ASKING
UK NOT MERELY "TO HELP WITH" INITIAL CONFERENCE, BUT "TO
ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY TO CONVENE IT," AND (C) ACCEPTS RESPONSIBILITY

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FOR GETTING ZIMBABWEANS TOGETHER FOR CONFERENCE. NYERERE

SAYS AFRICANS CANNOT ACCEPT SOME OF SMITH'S POINTS BUT WILL GO TO CONFERENCE WITH NO PRECONDITIONS OF THEIR OWN. END SUMMARY.

2. I DELIVERED SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO NYERERE (REFTTEL) AND DEPARTMENT'S STATEMENT ON LUSAKA MEETING AT 10:00 AM, SEPTEMBER 27. NYERERE HAD SUMMONED BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER BROWN AT SAME TIME. BROWN DELIVERED MESSAGE FROM CROSLAND AND REQUEST THAT NYERERE RECEIVE ROWLANDS NEXT SATURDAY (OCTOBER 2).

3. NYERERE WELCOMED SECRETARY'S AND CROSLAND'S LETTERS AND US-UK REACTION TO LUSAKA MEETING. HE SAID HE HOPED PHRASE IN BRITISH MESSAGE THAT UK WAS READY "HELP" WITH CONFERENCE WAS "JUST WORDS." IT WAS ESSENTIAL THAT UK ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY TO CONVENE CONFERENCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE AND AFRICAN PRESIDENTS WILL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

FOR GETTING THE ZIMBABWEANS TOGETHER. NKOMO WAS IN LUSAKA YESTERDAY AND PRESIDENTS WERE HAPPY TO FIND THAT HIS VIEWS ON DEVELOPMENTS TO DATE COINCIDED EXACTLY WITH THEIRS.

4. NYERERE SAID AFRICANS SIMPLY COULD NOT ACCEPT SPECIFICS AS DICTATED BY SMITH. THERE WILL BE A LOT OF PROBLEMS IN RHODESIA DURING TRANSITION AND A LOT OF MONEY GOING INTO IT FROM OUTSIDE. THEY MUST KNOW WHAT KIND OF A GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO RUN THINGS, WHAT POWERS IT WILL HAVE, AND HOW THE MONEY IS GOING TO BE HANDLED. THEY HAVE NO PRECONDITIONS OF THEIR OWN; THEY WILL WANT TO WORK OUT DETAILS AT THE CONFERENCE; BUT THEY CAN'T ACCEPT SMITH'S UNILATERALLY SETTING EVERYTHING UP IN ADVANCE. THAT'S ALL THE FIVE PRESIDENTS WERE REALLY SAYING AT LUSAKA.

5. NYERERE NOTED LAST SENTENCE IN SECRETARY'S LETTER ABOUT NOT ASKING TOO MUCH. HE SAID HE AGREED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS BUT THIS WAS THE KIND OF THING WHICH SHOULD BE SAID AT THE CONFERENCE. ZIMBABWEANS WEREN'T SURE YET EXACTLY WHAT THEY WANTED. IF THEY OR SMITH TRIED TO GET TOO MUCH AT CONFERENCE, THEN WE COULD ALL WARN THEM.

6. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION IN WHICH BROWN STRESSED NEED TO LET SMITH RETAIN SOME DIGNITY TO ENABLE HIM TO BRING HIS PEOPLE WITH HIM AND I NOTED IMPORTANCE OF NOT ALIENATING PUBLIC OPINION IN WORLD AND SECRET

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IN US AND UK BY INSISTING ON HUMILIATION FOR THE SAKE OF HUMILIATION, NYERERE SUMMED UP BY SAYING WE WERE DEALING WITH DOUBLE-EDGED PROBLEM :

SMITH HAD NOT BEEN CONVERTED MORALLY; HE HAD BEEN FORCED INTO AGREEMENT; HE WILL STILL TRY TO MAINTAIN OLD ORDER UNDER NEW FORMS; THIS MUST NOT BE ALLOWED. AT SAME TIME, SMITH MUST NOT BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO REPUDIATE ALL THAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.

7. IN RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS FROM BROWN, NYERERE SAID HE HAD NO VIEW ON COUNCIL OF STATE IDEA AND NO FIXED POSITION ON WHITE MINISTERS OF DEFENSE AND LAW AND ORDER. (HE ADDED THAT HE PERSONALLY WOULD NOT ACCEPT LATTER IF HE WERE ZIMBABWEAN LEADER BUT THAT CHOICE WAS UP TO ZIMBABWEANS.) ALL OF THESE MATTERS SHOULD BE WORKED OUT AT CONFERENCE. TO SUSTAIN MOMENTUM UK SHOULD CALL CONFERENCE AT ONCE. HE WOULD BE HAPPY RECEIVE ROWLANDS NEXT WEEKEND.

8. COMMENT: NYERERE WAS OBVIOUSLY EAGERLY AWAITING US-UK REACTION TO LUSAKA AND WAS GRATIFIED BY WHAT HE GOT. ("WE DIDN'T REJECT YOU IN LUSAKA AND YOU HAVEN'T REJECTED US IN YOUR REACTIONS. THAT'S GOOD.") THROUGHOUT CONVERSATION HIS REFERENCES TO US WERE CENTERED ON APPRECIATION FOR WHAT HAD BEEN ACCOMPLISHED WHILE HIS DISCUSSION OF NEXT STEPS WAS FOCUSSED SHARPLY ON NEED FOR PROMPT BRITISH ACTION.

SPAIN

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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